

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a) an encoding means for unit, arranged to error detection or correction ~~encoding~~ encode first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network,

said encoding ~~means~~ unit error detection or correction encoding at least a portion in a header in the information to be distributed with higher redundancy than an entity in the information to be distributed; and

b) a transmission means for multiplexing unit, arranged to multiplex the first information ~~to be distributed~~ encoded by said encoding ~~means~~ unit in a broadcast signal, and transmitting the multiplexed signal, wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the broadcast signal is an FM audio broadcast signal, and said transmission ~~means~~ unit

frequency-multiplexes the information to be distributed in a frequency band different from an FM-modulated audio signal.

Claim 3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the data format forms an error correction code, the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted as an entity in the data format of the second information, and the header of the first information ~~to be distributed~~ forms another error correction code.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first information ~~to be distributed~~ can contain character information and image information as an entity thereof, and when the entity is the character information, the first information ~~to be distributed~~ has higher redundancy than when the entity is the image information.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the header of the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted a plurality of number of times while being distributed in the entity.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a) an input means for inputting unit, arranged to input first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

b) a transmission means for multiplexing unit, arranged to multiplex the first information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal and ~~transmitting~~ transmit the multiplexed signal,

wherein a portion of a header in the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted at least a plurality of number of times while an entity in the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted, and

wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and

wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 9 (Canceled)

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim ~~10~~ 8, wherein the data format forms an error correction code, and the header of the first information ~~to be distributed~~ forms another error correction code.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

- a) an encoding means for unit, arranged to error detection or correction ~~encoding~~ encode first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and
- b) a transmission means for multiplexing unit, arranged to multiplex the first information ~~to be distributed~~ encoded by said encoding ~~means~~ unit in a broadcast signal, and ~~transmitting~~ transmit the multiplexed signal,

wherein a plurality of kinds of information are able to be transmitted as an entity in the first information ~~to be distributed~~, wherein said encoding ~~means~~ unit uses different error detection or correction ability in correspondence with the kind of information, ~~and~~ wherein said transmission ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claims 15-17 (Canceled)

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

error detection or correction encoding first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network, at least a portion in a header in the information to be distributed being error detection or correction encoded with higher redundancy than an entity in the information to be distributed; and

multiplexing the encoded first information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal, and transmitting the multiplexed signal,

wherein said multiplexing step is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

inputting first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

multiplexing the first information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal and transmitting the multiplexed signal, wherein a portion of a header in the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted at least a plurality of number of times while an entity in the first information ~~to be distributed~~ is transmitted, ~~and~~ wherein said multiplexing step is also arrange so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

error detection or correction encoding first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network; and

multiplexing the encoded first information ~~to be distributed~~ in a broadcast signal, and transmitting the multiplexed signal, wherein a plurality of kinds of information are able to be transmitted as an entity in the first information ~~to be distributed~~, wherein different error detection or correction ability is used in correspondence with the kind of information, ~~and~~ wherein said multiplexing step is also arranged so as to multiplex second information including character information into the broadcast signal without using the Markup language description format to transmit the thus-multiplexed signal, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information.

Claim 21 (Canceled)

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a) a reception ~~means for receiving~~ unit, arranged to receive a first broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network and a first error check code added for the information to be distributed, wherein said reception ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to receive a second broadcast signal provided by multiplexing second information including character information distributed without using the Markup language description format, and a second error check code, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information; and

b) a processing ~~means for performing~~ unit, arranged to perform error correction or detection processing of the first information using the first error check code, wherein said processing ~~means~~ unit is also arranged so as to execute the error correction or detection processing on the second information by using the second error check code, when the second broadcast signal is received by said reception ~~unit~~ means.

Claims 23-25 (Canceled)

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the first information is character information, and wherein said apparatus further

comprises ~~an output means for outputting unit, arranged to output~~ the character information processed by said processing ~~means unit~~ to a display ~~means unit~~.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the first information includes image information, and said display ~~means unit~~ displays a message indicating reception of the image information when the image information is received.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 26, further comprising;

~~a storage means for storing unit, arranged to store the received information to be distributed; and~~

~~an informing means unit, arranged to transmit for informing~~ that the received information ~~to be distributed~~ is stored in said storage ~~means unit~~ and has not been output to an external device.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): An apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the Markup language description format is an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claims 30-31 (Canceled)

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a) a reception means for receiving unit, arranged to receive a broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing information to be distributed in a description format, used in a multimedia network, as an entity of a data format used for multiplexing first character information in an FM audio signal; and

b) a display means for displaying unit, arranged to display the first character information,

wherein said display ~~means displaying~~ unit displays second character information when ~~the information to be distributed has~~ said reception unit receives a broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing the second character information.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein when the information to be distributed has image information, said display ~~means~~ unit displays a message indicating reception of the image information.

Claim 34 (Original): An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the information to be distributed is information in an HTML (HyperText Markup Language) format.

Claims 35-37 (Canceled)

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

receiving a first broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing first information to be distributed in a Markup language description format used in a multimedia network and a first

error check code added for the information to be distributed, wherein said receiving step is also arranged so as to receive a second broadcast signal provided by multiplexing second signal including character information distributed without using the Markup language description format, and a second error check code, and wherein the first information has a data format thereof which includes a format that complies with a data format of the second information; and performing error correction or detection processing ~~of the~~ using the first error check code,

wherein said performing step is also arranged so as to perform error correction or detection processing on the second information by using the second error check code, when the second broadcast signal is received in said receiving step.

Claim 39 (Canceled)

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): An information processing method comprising the steps of:

receiving a broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing information to be distributed in a description format, used in a multimedia network, as an entity of a data format used for multiplexing first character information in an FM audio signal; and

displaying second character information using a display unit, arranged to display ~~means for displaying~~ the first character information when ~~the information to be distributed has~~ said receiving step receives a broadcast signal obtained by multiplexing the second character information.

Claims 41-51 (Canceled)